



WEEKLY FLU REPORT

Epidemiology Program—Influenza-Like Illness (ILI) Surveillance

2016 CDC Week 47

This report includes...

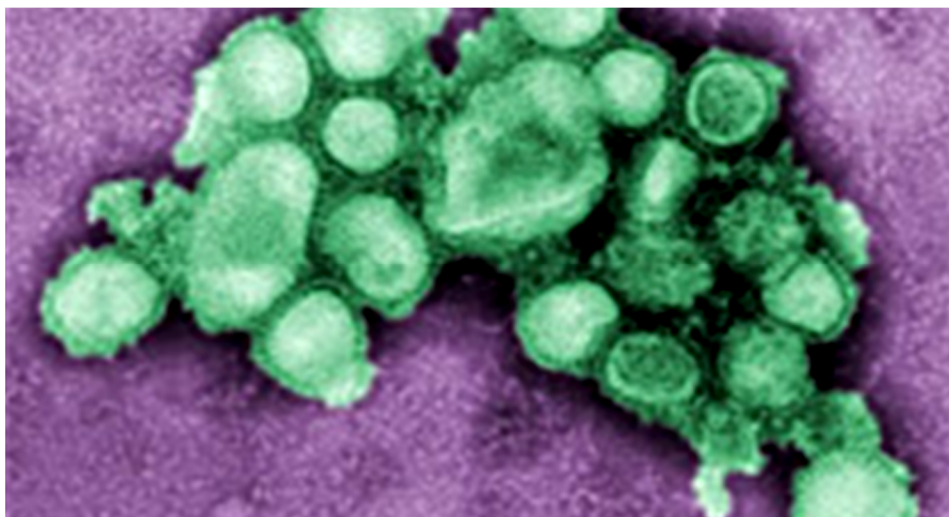
- ⇒ This report includes information on influenza-like illness (ILI) activity in Harris County as well as on the state and national level.
- ⇒ Absenteeism data are voluntarily reported from school nurses located at area public schools.

Important Notes:

- ⇒ Influenza-like illness (ILI) is defined as an illness including a fever (temperature of at least 100°F) with a cough OR a sore throat, without another known cause (such as strep throat).
- ⇒ Influenza/ILI is reported on a voluntary basis and is not a mandatory notifiable condition.
- ⇒ Similarly, rapid influenza test results are also reported on a voluntary basis.
- ⇒ Therefore, data presented in this report indicate trends and should not be interpreted as a complete and total picture of influenza activity in Harris County.
- ⇒ The 2016-2017 influenza season is from October 2, 2016—May 20, 2017.

Public Health is “what we as a society do collectively to assure the conditions in which people can be healthy”

- The Future of the Public's Health in the 21st Century, Institutes of Medicine, 2003

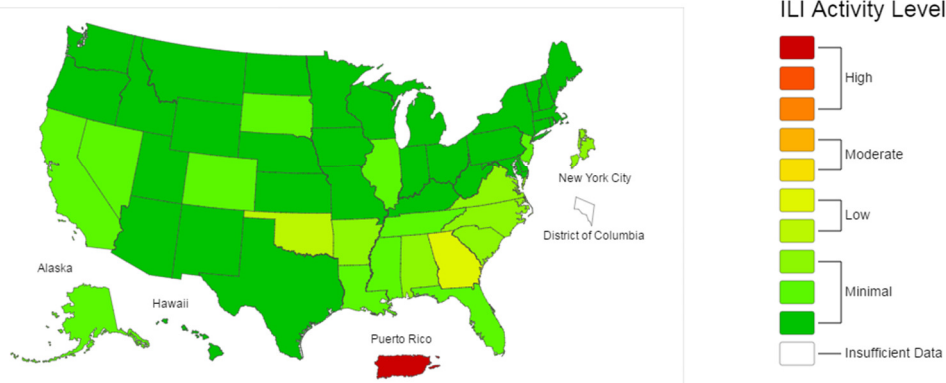


Negative stain EM image of the 2009 H1N1 influenza A/CA/4/09
Source: <http://www.cdc.gov/media/subtopic/library/diseases.htm>
Photo Credit: C. S. Goldsmith and A. Balish, CDC

In This Issue

- National and State Influenza Activity
- Harris County School Absenteeism
- Texas Influenza Lab Testing Summary

2016-17 Influenza Season Week 46 ending Nov 19, 2016



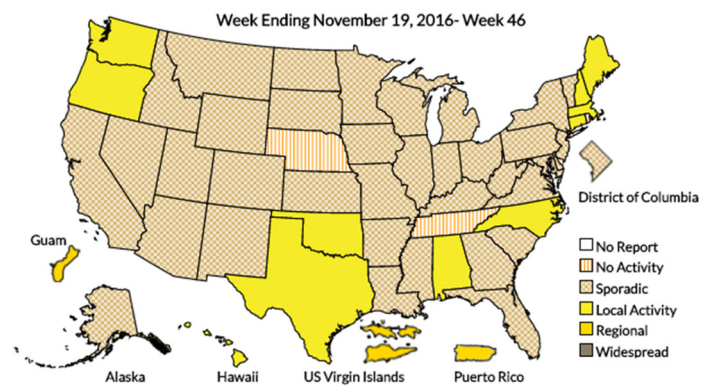
Nationwide

Influenza activity increased slightly, but remained low. Local spread has been reported in the State of Texas for CDC Week 46 (November 13, 2016 - November 19, 2016).

Locally

School influenza-like illness in Harris County was low during CDC week 47 (November 20 - November 26) due to the Thanksgiving break.

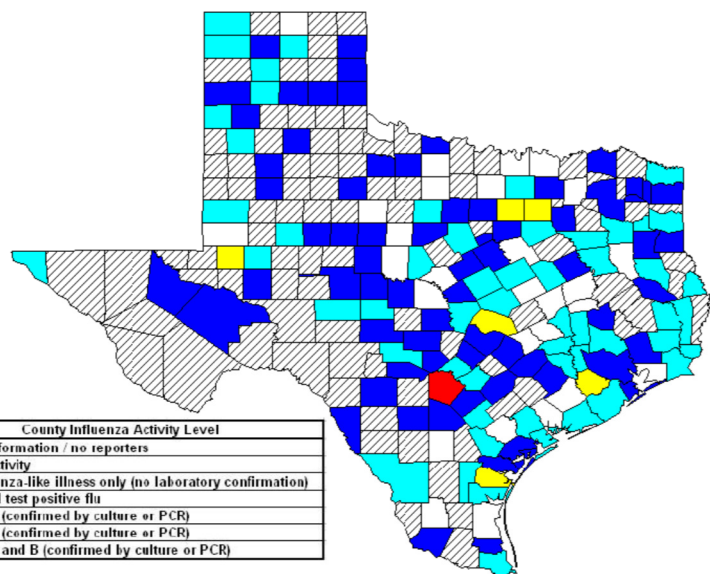
A Weekly Influenza Surveillance Report Prepared by the Influenza Division
Weekly Influenza Activity Estimates Reported by State and Territorial Epidemiologists*



Source: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly>

Statewide Influenza Activity Map

Figure 5: Texas Map Displaying the Highest Level of Influenza or ILI Activity Reported by County for the Week Ending Nov. 19, 2016 (MMWR Week 46)



Please note: The majority of influenza cases are not reportable by law in Texas. This map contains data from sentinel sites and only displays influenza and ILI cases that were reported to public health. Positive laboratory results are reported according to specimen collection date, or date received in the laboratory if the former is unknown.

Statewide

No variant influenza viruses have been identified in Texas during this flu season.

Locally

There have been no influenza-associated pediatric deaths reported in Harris County (excluding the City of Houston) during this flu season.

Source: <https://www.dshs.state.tx.us/idcu/disease/influenza/surveillance/2016/>

School Reporting

Influenza/ILI reporting is voluntary as it is not a mandatory notifiable condition. Therefore, this report indicates trends and should not be interpreted as a complete and total picture of influenza activity in Harris County.

Daily absenteeism and student/staff ILI numbers are reported from schools in the 18 Harris County Independent School Districts (ISDs). Schools were asked to begin reporting ILI from the beginning of the school year; however, reporting participation generally increases as occurrence of ILI increases.

School holidays:

* Week 47/48

(Thanksgiving)

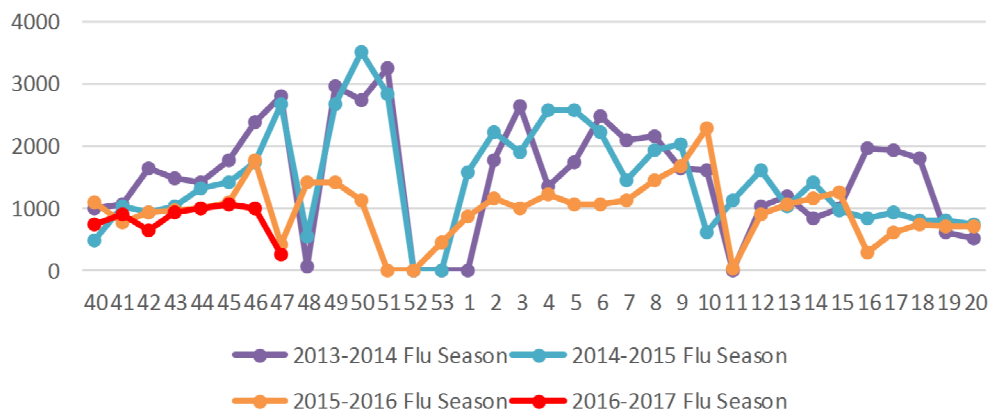
* Week 52-Week 1

(Winter Break)

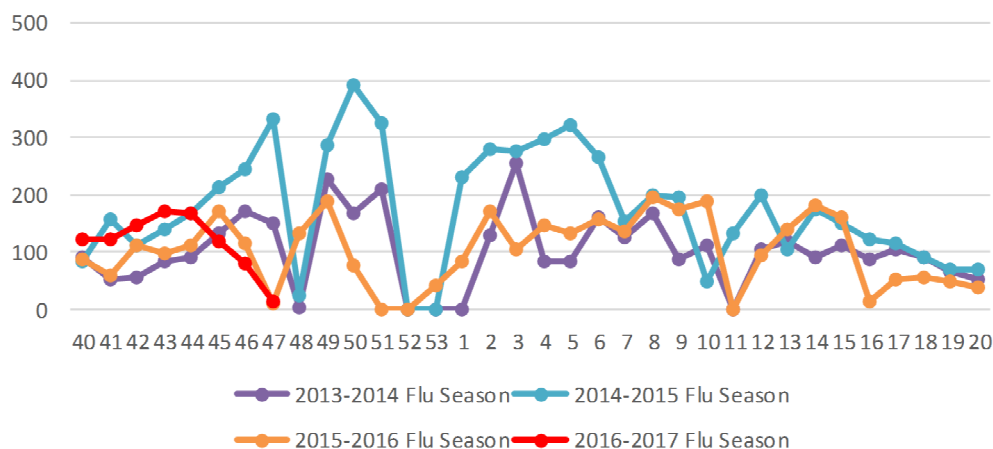
* Week 10/11

(Spring Break)

Student Absenteeism Due to Influenza-Like Illness (ILI) by CDC Week - 2016-2017 Influenza Season



Staff Absenteeism Due to Influenza-Like Illness (ILI) by CDC Week 2016-2017 Influenza Season



School Absenteeism Due to Influenza-Like Illness (ILI) by CDC Week 2016-2017 Influenza Season

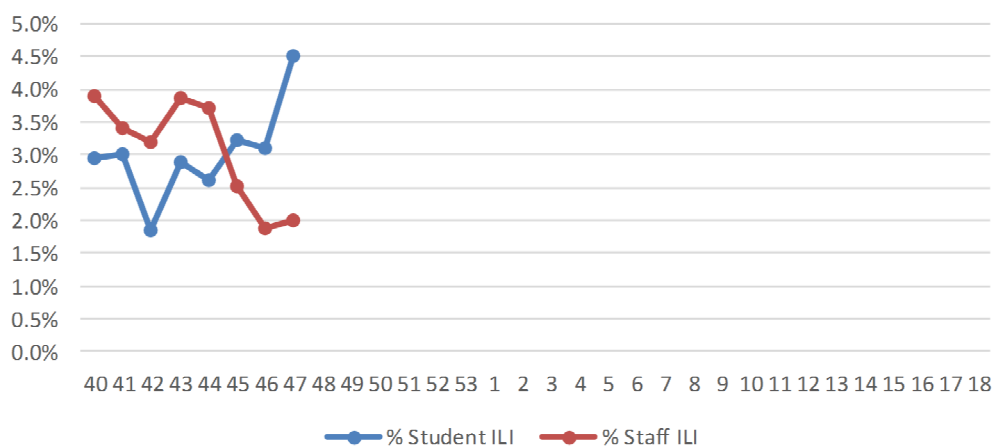
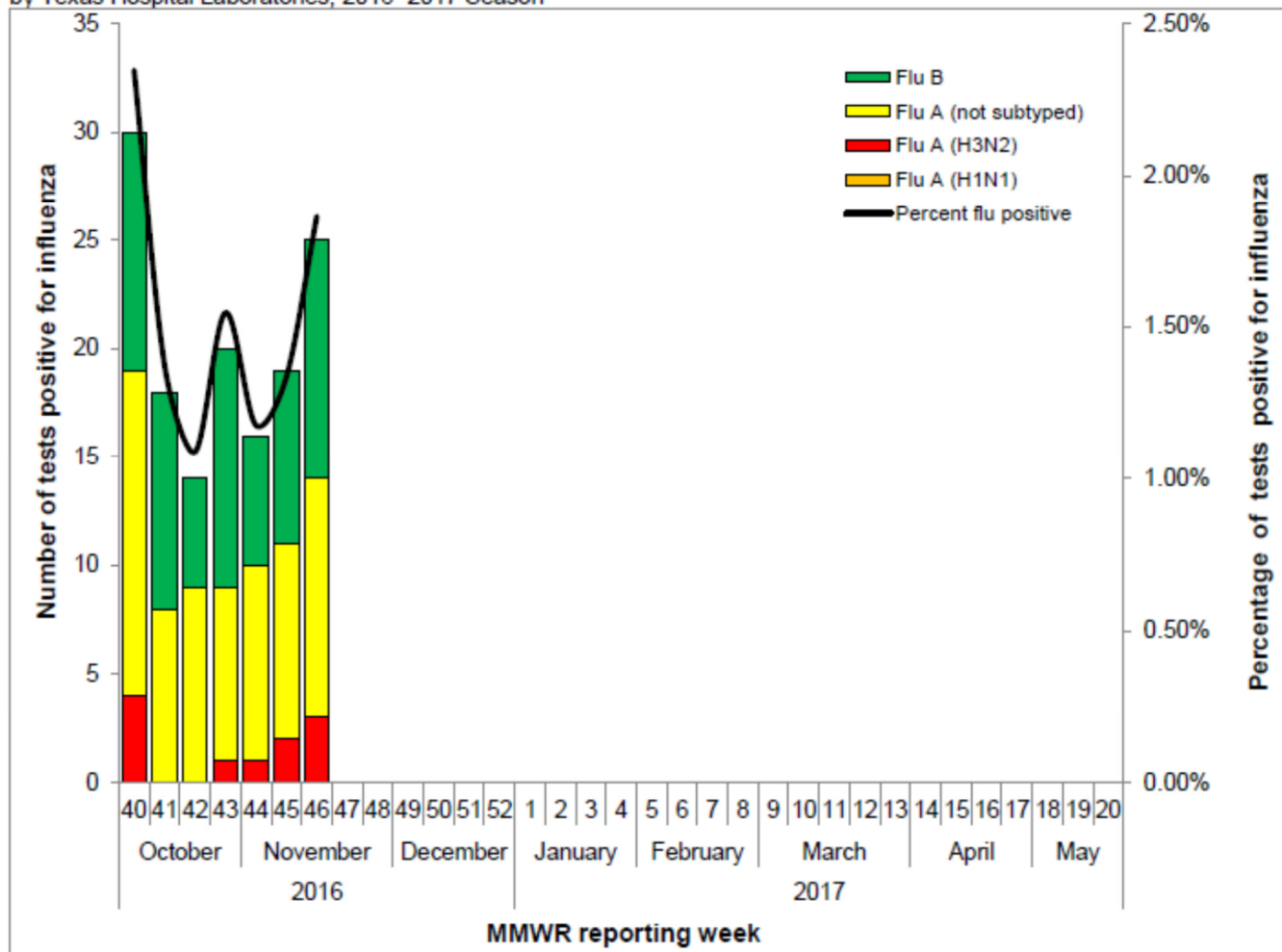


Figure 1: Number and Percentage of Tests (Antigen, Culture, PCR) Positive for Influenza by Type and Subtype Reported by Texas Hospital Laboratories, 2016–2017 Season



Source: <https://www.dshs.state.tx.us/idcu/disease/influenza/surveillance/2016/>

Additional Information

Harris County Public Health and Environmental Services

<http://publichealth.harriscountytexas.gov/>

Texas Department of State Health Services

Influenza Surveillance: <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/idcu/disease/influenza/surveillance/>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

FluView Weekly Report: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly>

Information for Schools/Childcare Providers: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/school/index.htm>

World Health Organization

Influenza Surveillance: <http://www.who.int/topics/influenza/en/>

Contact Us

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Harris County Public Health

Healthy People, Healthy Communities
...a Healthy Harris County